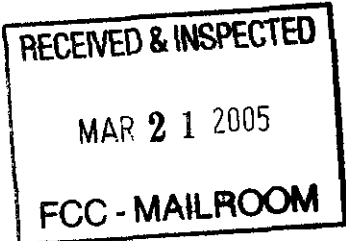


Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20554



MM Docket No. _____

In re)
)
 Amendment of Section 73.202 (b)) RM-
 Table of Allotments)
 FM Broadcast Stations)
 (Dundee and Odessa, NY))

To: The Chief, Allocations Branch

PETITION FOR RULEMAKING

FINGER LAKES RADIO GROUP, INC. ("petitioner"), by its counsel, pursuant to Section 1.401 of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission, respectfully requests the Commission to institute a rulemaking proceeding to amend the FM Table of Allotments as follows:

	Channel No.	
<u>City</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Dundee, NY	240A*	----
Odessa, NY	----	238A

No. of Channels rec'd 0+4
 List ABOVE
 MB 05-26

* present frequency would change based on BPH-20040317AAL currently before the commission.

Proposal of the Petitioner

1. The petitioner is the licensee of FM broadcast station WFLR-FM, Dundee, NY (Facility ID 36406). It desires to change its community of license to Odessa, NY, and to modify its channel assignment. This proposal advances the purposes of Section 307(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, as demonstrated herein. This will be a

first transmission service for Odessa, NY. Dundee will continue to receive service from fulltime AM station WFLR, which is also licensed to Petitioner.

2. Odessa is located in Schuyler County in upstate New York approximately 18 miles southeast of Dundee, the existing community of license (Dundee is in the adjacent County of Yates). Section 1.420(i) of the Commission's Rules provides:

(i) In the course of the rulemaking proceeding to amend §73.202(b) or §73.606(b), the Commission may modify the license or permit of an FM or television broadcast station to specify a new community of license where the amended allotment would be mutually exclusive with the licensee's or permittee's present assignment.

Since the primary contour of the proposed Odessa station overlaps the primary contour of the existing station, Section 1.420(i) applies, and the WFLR-FM license may be modified in accordance with this rule without the opportunity for any other applicant to apply.

Please note that the station can be licensed to Odessa with the identical facilities to those proposed in BPH-20040317AAL (other than channel) and provide the necessary city grade coverage to Odessa. See attached Engineering Exhibit (Exhibit 1).

4. The petitioner is a duly organized corporation comprised solely of United States citizens. If the requested petition is acted upon favorably, petitioner will apply for the authorization to move WFLR-FM to Odessa.

Comparison of Communities

5. Odessa is a community listed in the 2000 Census with a population of 617. The community is a village with a mayor and a five-member village board of trustees. Village Offices are located at 300 E. Main St., Odessa with offices for the Mayor, Village Clerk, Village Court, and Village Trustees. Odessa has its own Public Works Department; its own post office and zip code; its own schools system with an elementary

school (Hanlon Elementary) and a junior/senior high school (Odessa-Montour Junior Senior High School). Attached hereto as Exhibit 2 is a compilation of demographic data respecting the communities (Dundee has a population of 1,690). This data illustrates the fact that Odessa is a substantial community, deserving of its own transmission service.

6. There are no commercial broadcast facilities licensed to Odessa. The reallocation proposed herein would provide a first local aural transmission service to a community that is not presently served. Dundee would continue to have a local aural transmission service by way of co-owned station WFLR. Accordingly, the proposed rulemaking would be in accord with Section 307(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. Further, Odessa is not in an urbanized area, and the station will continue to provide coverage to Dundee, factors which demonstrate that the proposed move is in accord with Commission precedent. *Georgetown and Garden City, South Carolina*, Report and Order, released September 5, 1997, DA-97-1887, at para. 4.

WHEREFORE THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, it is respectfully requested that the Commission initiate a rulemaking proceeding as proposed hereinabove.

Respectfully submitted,

Law Offices
JAMES L. OYSTER
108 Oyster Lane
Castleton, Virginia 22716-2839
(540) 937-4800
Date: March 17, 2005

FINGER LAKES RADIO GROUP, INC.

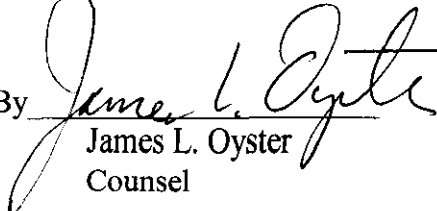
By 
James L. Oyster
Counsel

EXHIBIT 1

ENGINEERING STATEMENT

RADIOTECHNIQUES

PO Box 367 • 402 Tenth Avenue • Haddon Heights, NJ 08035

856-546-8008 • fax 856-546-1841

Radiotechniques Engineering, LLC has been retained by Finger Lakes Radio Group, Inc.(FLRG), Licensee of WFLR-FM to prepare this report in support of its petition for rulemaking to change the principal community of WFLR-FM from Dundee, NY to Odessa, NY.

FLRG has a one-step application (BPH-20040317AAL) to change the frequency of WFLR-FM from channel 240A to 238A and relocate the transmitter location to N 42-23-10, W 77-00-16. This application has recently received Canadian concurrence with respect to spacing with respect to CJBC1F, Belleville, ON.

FM Channel Spacing

Below is an allocation study on the proposed site showing that it is fully spaced with respect to all domestic stations and allocations:

ComStudy 2.2 search of channel 238 (95.5 MHz Class A) at 42-23-10.0 N, 77-00-16.0 W.

CALL	CITY	ST CHN CL	DIST	SEP	BRNG	CLEARANCE
910708ME	SOUTH WAVERLY	PA 241 A	51.21	31.00	147.8	20.2
CJBC1F *	BELLEVILLE	ON 238 C1	214.65	239.00	355.7	-24.4
CJBC1F *	BELLEVILLE	ON 238 C1	213.08	239.00	349.0	-25.9
NEW	BINGHAMTON	NY 239 LP100	94.59	56.00	112.1	38.6
NEW	ITHACA	NY 235 D	27.56	0.00	89.6	27.6
W236AK	CORNING	NY 236 D	27.79	0.00	192.6	27.8
W238AK	BATH	NY 238 D	24.20	0.00	257.2	24.2
WAQX-FM	MANLIUS	NY 239 B1	101.60	96.00	46.8	5.6
WAQX-FM	MANLIUS	NY 239 B1	103.40	96.00	43.3	7.4
WBYL	SALLADASBURG	PA 238 A	124.58	115.00	188.5	9.6
WBYL	SALLADASBURG	PA 238 A	129.09	115.00	187.4	14.1
WFLR-FM **	DUNDEE	NY 238 A	0.00	115.00	90.0	-115.0
WFLR-FM **	DUNDEE	NY 240 A	17.61	31.00	3.0	-13.4
WFXF	HONEOYE FALLS	NY 236 B	79.60	69.00	334.8	10.6
WFXF	HONEOYE FALLS	NY 236 B	79.64	69.00	334.8	10.6
WNKI	CORNING	NY 291 B	25.05	15.00	186.2	10.0
WPHD	SOUTH WAVERLY	PA 241 A	54.18	31.00	149.0	23.2
WPIG	OLEAN	NY 239 B	125.28	113.00	252.3	12.3
WTTC-FM	TOWANDA	PA 237 A	81.21	72.00	148.0	9.2

Notes: * Canadian concurrence has recently been granted with respect to this specially negotiated short spaced allocation.

** Present and proposed WFLR-FM facilities

The facilities proposed in BPH-20040317AAL are those proposed as the reference facility, and reference coordinates for this rulemaking petition. Attached as Figure 1 is a map showing the F(50,50) 70 dbuV principal community contour from the proposed facility. This map clearly shows that the principal community contour from the reference coordinates encompasses Odessa, NY.

RADIO TECHNIQUES

PO Box 367 • 402 Tenth Avenue • Haddon Heights, NJ 08035

856-546-8008 • fax 856-546-1841

Principal Community

WFLR-FM is presently assigned to Dundee, NY, which has two transmission services. Deletion of channel 238A from Dundee, NY and assigning it to Odessa, NY will provide that community with its first transmission service, while leaving one transmission facility remaining at Dundee.

Odessa, NY is a community with 617 persons according to the 2000 census, is assigned zip code 14869, and has an elementary and a junior-senior high school. It has Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Methodist and Wesleyan churches. Odessa is a New York Village with local government of trustees and mayor, and a local fire company. It also has a local web newspaper "The Odessa File".

Since there is no change of proposed transmitter or antenna facilities from that already proposed in BPH-20040317AAL, no change in contour service will result, and therefore no change of service to other communities or areas will result from the proposed re-allotment.

This is to certify that this report has been prepared by myself or under my supervision, except where stated otherwise, and in all cases is correct and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I am a consulting radio engineer with the firm of Radiotechniques Engineering, LLC with offices at 402 Tenth Avenue, Haddon Heights, NJ 08035.

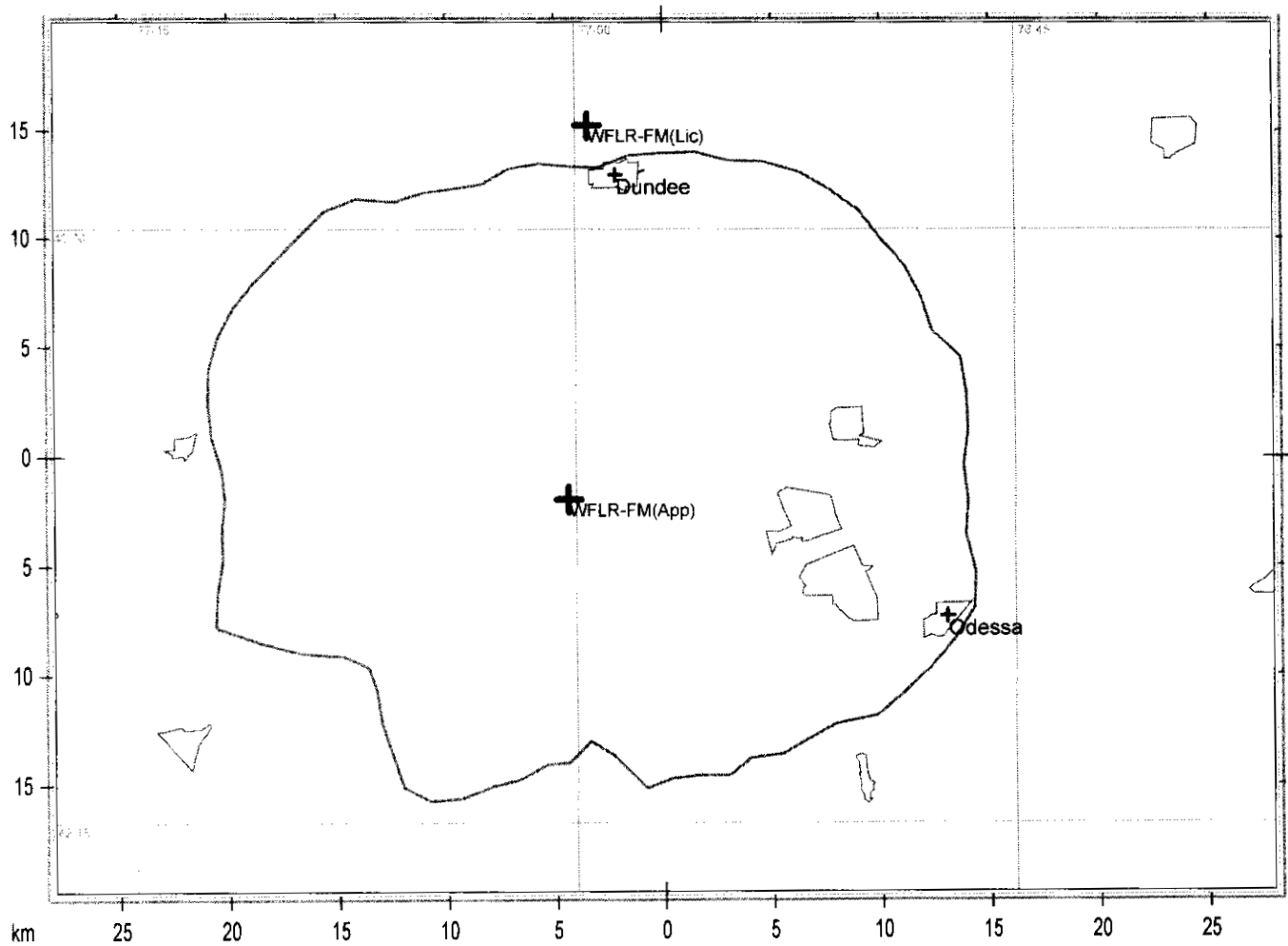
I have over 25 years of consulting engineering experience, and am a member of the Association of Federal Communications Consulting Engineers, and a senior member of the Society of Broadcast Engineers and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. I graduated with a BSEE from the Newark College of Engineering of the New Jersey Institute of Technology and hold a Professional Engineer License from the State of New Jersey and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



//Seal//

Consulting Engineer

Principal Community Service to Odessa, NY

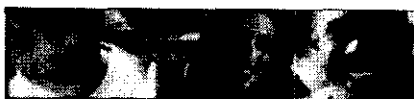


WFLR F(50,50) 70 dbu Contour (BPH-20040317AAL)

State Borders City Borders Lat/Lon Grid

EXHIBIT 2

DEMOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION



U.S. Census Bureau American FactFinder

FACT SHEET

Odessa village, New York

Highlights from the Census 2000 Demographic Profiles:

General Characteristics - show more >>

	Number	Percent	U.S.		
Total population	617	100.0	100%	map	brief
Male	287	46.5	49.1%	map	brief
Female	330	53.5	50.9%	map	brief
Median age (years)	37.1	(X)	35.3	map	brief
Under 5 years	34	5.5	6.8%	map	
18 years and over	458	74.2	74.3%		
65 years and over	80	13.0	12.4%	map	brief
One race	612	99.2	97.6%		
White	596	96.6	75.1%	map	brief
Black or African American	5	0.8	12.3%	map	brief
American Indian and Alaska Native	1	0.2	0.9%	map	brief
Asian	0	0.0	3.6%	map	brief
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0	0.1%	map	brief
Some other race	10	1.6	5.5%	map	
Two or more races	5	0.8	2.4%	map	brief
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	9	1.5	12.5%	map	brief
Average household size	2.46	(X)	2.59	map	brief
Average family size	3.04	(X)	3.14	map	
Total housing units	261	100.0	100.0%	map	
Occupied housing units	246	94.3	91.0%		brief
Owner-occupied housing units	170	69.1	66.2%	map	
Renter-occupied housing units	76	30.9	33.8%	map	brief
Vacant housing units	15	5.7	9.0%	map	

Social Characteristics - show more >>

	Number	Percent	U.S.		
Population 25 years and over	407	100.0			
High school graduate or higher	337	82.8	80.4%	map	brief
Bachelor's degree or higher	85	20.9	24.4%	map	
Civilian veterans (civilian population 18 years and over)	61	13.5	12.7%	map	brief
Disability status (population 21 to 64 years)	87	25.5	19.2%	map	brief
Foreign born	0	0.0	11.1%	map	brief
Now married (population 15 years and over)	280	57.0	54.4%		brief
Speak a language other than English at home (5 years and over)	10	1.8	17.9%	map	brief

Economic Characteristics - show more >>

	Number	Percent	U.S.		
In labor force (population 16 years and over)	311	65.1	63.9%		brief
Mean travel time to work in minutes (population 16 years and over)	25.0	(X)	25.5	map	brief
Median household income (dollars)	41,250	(X)	41,994	map	
Median family income (dollars)	51,429	(X)	50,046	map	
Per capita income (dollars)	18,639	(X)	21,587	map	
Families below poverty level	15	8.8	9.2%	map	brief
Individuals below poverty level	53	8.9	12.4%	map	

Housing Characteristics - show more >>

	Number	Percent	U.S.		
Single-family owner-occupied homes	144	100.0			brief
Median value (dollars)	68,400	(X)	119,600	map	brief
Median of selected monthly owner costs	(X)	(X)			brief
With a mortgage	840	(X)	1,088	map	
Not mortgaged	314	(X)	295		

Dundee village, New York

Highlights from the Census 2000 Demographic Profiles:

General Characteristics - show more >>					
	Number	Percent	U.S.		
Total population	1,690	100.0	100%	map	brief
Male	791	46.8	49.1%	map	brief
Female	899	53.2	50.9%	map	brief
Median age (years)	38.0	(X)	35.3	map	brief
Under 5 years	116	6.9	6.8%	map	
18 years and over	1,223	72.4	74.3%		
65 years and over	290	17.2	12.4%	map	brief
One race	1,682	99.5	97.6%		
White	1,658	98.1	75.1%	map	brief
Black or African American	17	1.0	12.3%	map	brief
American Indian and Alaska Native	2	0.1	0.9%	map	brief
Asian	2	0.1	3.6%	map	brief
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0	0.1%	map	brief
Some other race	3	0.2	5.5%	map	
Two or more races	8	0.5	2.4%	map	brief
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	11	0.7	12.5%	map	brief
Average household size	2.45	(X)	2.59	map	brief
Average family size	3.07	(X)	3.14	map	
Total housing units	728	100.0	100.0%	map	
Occupied housing units	661	90.8	91.0%		brief
Owner-occupied housing units	379	57.3	66.2%	map	
Renter-occupied housing units	282	42.7	33.8%	map	brief
Vacant housing units	67	9.2	9.0%	map	
Social Characteristics - show more >>					
	Number	Percent	U.S.		
Population 25 years and over	1,065	100.0			
High school graduate or higher	871	81.8	80.4%	map	brief
Bachelor's degree or higher	92	8.6	24.4%	map	
Civilian veterans (civilian population 18 years and over)	233	19.6	12.7%	map	brief
Disability status (population 21 to 64 years)	264	30.0	19.2%	map	brief
Foreign born	20	1.2	11.1%	map	brief
Now married (population 15 years and over)	523	40.7	54.4%		brief
Speak a language other than English at home (5 years and over)	47	3.0	17.9%	map	brief
Economic Characteristics - show more >>					
	Number	Percent	U.S.		
In labor force (population 16 years and over)	734	57.6	63.9%		brief
Mean travel time to work in minutes (population 16 years and over)	18.4	(X)	25.5	map	brief
Median household income (dollars)	26,034	(X)	41,994	map	
Median family income (dollars)	32,446	(X)	50,046	map	
Per capita income (dollars)	14,858	(X)	21,587	map	
Families below poverty level	62	15.8	9.2%	map	brief
Individuals below poverty level	285	17.0	12.4%	map	
Housing Characteristics - show more >>					
	Number	Percent	U.S.		
Single-family owner-occupied homes	313	100.0			brief
Median value (dollars)	58,200	(X)	119,600	map	brief
Median of selected monthly owner costs	(X)	(X)			brief
With a mortgage	796	(X)	1,088	map	
Not mortgaged	344	(X)	295		

(X) Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1 (SF 1) and Summary File 3 (SF 3)

GENERAL INFORMATION - SCHUYER COUNTY TOWNS

CATHARINE

106 Grant Rd. Odessa, NY 14869

Phone 594-2273 - FAX 594-2274

Office hours Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Wednesday 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Supervisor

Glenn Bleiler

5461 State Route 224

Alpine, NY 14869

BOARD MEETING - 8:00 pm - 3rd Tuesday of each month

January - 2nd Tuesday, November after election

[Back to the Towns & Villages Index](#)

CAYUTA

P.O. Box 85, Cayuta, NY 14824

Phone 594-2507 - FAX 594-2507

Office hours Monday and Thursday 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Tuesday 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Supervisor

David M. Reed

6371 Morrell Road

Cayuta, NY 14824

796-9558

BOARD MEETING - 7:00 pm - 2nd Wednesday of each month

Town Hall, Route 224, Cayuta

[Back to the Towns & Villages Index](#)

DIX

304 7th Street, Watkins Glen 14891

Phone 535-9125 - FAX 535-2590

Office hours Tuesday 12:00 noon - 4:00 pm

Wednesday 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Thursday 12:00 noon - 5:00 pm

Supervisor

**Frank Ganung (R)
1641 County Route #18
Montour Falls 14865
535-9344**

BOARD MEETING - 7:30 pm - 2nd Monday of each month

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HECTOR

**5097 NYS Route 227, Burdett 14818
Phone 546-5286 - Fax: 546-5200
Office hours Monday thru Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

Supervisor

**Benjamin Dickens (R)
5097 Route 227
Burdett 14818
546-5286**

BOARD MEETING - 7:00 pm - 2nd Tuesday of each month

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MONTOUR

**P.O. Box 579 Montour Falls 14865
Phone 535-9476; FAX - 535-8897
Office hours Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Wednesday 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm**

Supervisor

**Kenneth Dillion (R)
Mills Road
Montour Falls 14865
535-9476**

**BOARD MEETING - 7:30 pm - 2nd Tuesday of each month
Town Hall, Havana Glen Park, Montour Falls**

[Back to the Towns & Villages Index](#)

ORANGE

899 Hornby Road, Beaver Dams 14812

Phone 962-2978 - FAX 962-1003

Office hours Tuesday and Thursday 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Saturday 8:00 am - 12:00 noon

Supervisor

Cedric Stewart

955 County Route 16

Beaver Dams 14812

936-6646

BOARD MEETING - 7:00 pm - 1st Monday of each month

Town Hall, Monterey

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READING

P.O. Box 5 Reading Center 14876

Phone 535-7459

Office hours Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Saturday 10:00 am - 12:00 noon (January only)

Wednesday 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm (after 1/31)

Supervisor

C. LaMont Stamp (R)

4025 Route 14

Rock Stream 14878

535-2842

BOARD MEETING - 7:30 pm - 2nd Wednesday of each month

Town Hall, Route 14A, Reading Center

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TYRONE

596 CR#23 Dundee 14837

Phone 292-3181

**Office hours Monday, Friday, Saturday 9:00 am - 12:00 noon
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

Supervisor

**Philip L. Davis (R)
4090 Shorewood Drive
Hammondsport 14840
583-2137**

**BOARD MEETING - 7:30 pm - 2nd Tuesday of each month
Tyrone Town Hall, Weston**

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GENERAL INFORMATION - SCHUYER COUNTY VILLAGES

BURDETT

**3830 Main Street, PO Box 234, Burdett 14818
Phone 546-2266 Fax 546-4466
Office hours First and Third Saturday 9:00 am - 12:00 noon
Tuesdays 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

Mayor

**Dale Walter
P.O. Box 788
Burdett 14818
546-4549**

**BOARD MEETING - 7:30 pm - 2nd and 4th Monday of each month
Village Hall, Willow Street, Burdett**

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MONTOUR FALLS

**408 West Main Street, PO Box 812, Montour Falls 14865
Phone 535-7367 - FAX 535-7076
Office hours Monday thru Friday 9:00 am - 4:30 pm**

Mayor

**Dianna Overhiser
415 E. Main Street
Montour Falls, NY 14865**

535-6020

**BOARD MEETING - 7:00 pm - 1st and 3rd Monday of each month
Village Hall, Main Street, Montour Falls**

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ODESSA

300 E. Main Street, Odessa

Phone 594-2100 FAX 594-4282

Office hours Monday thru Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

[Mayor](#)

Robert Carpenter

PO Box 103

Odessa 14869

Phone: 594-2100

BOARD MEETING - 7:30 pm - 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month

Municipal Building, Main Street, Odessa

[Back to the Towns & Villages Index](#)

WATKINS GLEN

303 N. Franklin St., Watkins Glen

Phone 535-2736 FAX 535-7621

Office hours: Monday thru Friday 7:00 am - 4:30 pm

[Mayor](#)

Robert H. Lee (D)

303 N. Franklin Street

Watkins Glen 14891

535-2736

BOARD MEETING - 7:00 pm - 1st and 3rd Monday of each month

Municipal Building, Franklin Street, Watkins Glen

Odessa Officials, Offices

Village Board Members

Pictured below, from left: Mayor Robert Carpenter, and Village Board trustees Rob Ketchum, Mike Baker, Peggy Tomassi and Rita Decker.



Mayor: Robert Carpenter

Trustees: Rita Decker, Mike Baker, Rob Ketchum, Peggy Tomassi

Village Clerk: Sandra A. Cevette, 300 E. Main St., Odessa, 594-2100

Department of Public Works: Dick Palmer, 594-2533

Municipal Building: 300 E. Main St., Odessa, 594-3792

Dutton S. Peterson Memorial Library: 106 First St., Odessa, 594-2791

The Odessa File

Low ad rates for this site!

The tantalizing postcard

We get about 7,500 visits a week, a nice advertisement audience. Check out our advertising rates.

Government

Schools

People

Business

Features

• History

Sports

Forum

Calendar

Home

We also have a

ODESSA, June 8 -- Postcards can be such tantalizing teasers.

Village mayor Bob Carpenter recently unveiled one (at right) that has entered the possession of Odessa, joining other bits of history embodied in old ledgers, letters, photos, and other memorabilia collected by village historians over the years.

But while some of the memorabilia throws light on the past, this item leaves more questions than answers.

The card is postmarked, but you can't read the date. The "ESS" of Odessa is visible on the back, but not the rest.

The front promotes Odessa, and has a small photo glued on that shows the old Mill Street bridge, snapped roughly from the rear of the bank on Main Street. There is a house in the background -- on the hill running up to what is now Parmenter's Tires -- that was torn down a few years



Business Card Page. ago.
Click .

So we know roughly the where, but not the when.

And beyond that is the note on the back. The card is addressed to Mr. John Chaapel, Branchport, RFD and contains these words:

"Thursday evening. Yours received last night. I am painting pictures now days ... will write a letter later. Saw two foxes Sunday P.M. in the field in front of our house."

Then there is mention of a Mr. Walters, and something about a marriage, but it is difficult to decipher.

It is signed "From a lonesome girl."

The frustrating part of such items is the unlikely chance of ever finding out the rest. For example:

Who is or was John Chaapel? How long ago was this written and mailed? Who is our mystery writer? Where -- presumably in or near Odessa -- did she live? Did she walk from her home to the old Odessa Post Office on Main Street to mail the card -- or ride in some distance by horse and buggy ... or by old automobile? Why was she lonesome, and what was John Chaapel to her? Friend? Cousin? Lover?

And where did the postcard come from? Was there a local manufacturer of such delights? Did the postcard purchaser get to affix a photo of choice onto the front (for there is no mention on front or back of the pictured scene)? What was the reference to a marriage?

Did Lonesome Girl and John Chaapel ever get together? Was the postcard from a past just distant enough that they still exist -- or co-exist -- as elder statespersons? Or are they long gone?

And what of her pictures? Was she an artist of note? Has any of her work survived? And if so, where?

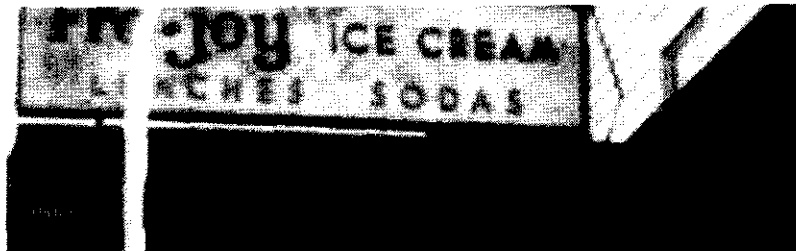
We could go on in this vein, I suspect, asking question after question ... and in absence of fact we could even supply our own manufactured answers.

But we will let it rest ... in the shadow of yesteryear -- unless any of our readers can shed some light on it..



The Sweet Shop ... and Vernie

The two photos here were provided to this website by the Village of Odessa -- after they were passed along to the village by area residents.



The photo above shows the Sweet Shop run by Vernie Williams at the corner of Church and Main Streets in Odessa. The time is uncertain, though the car in the photo is believed to be a 1938 Dodge.

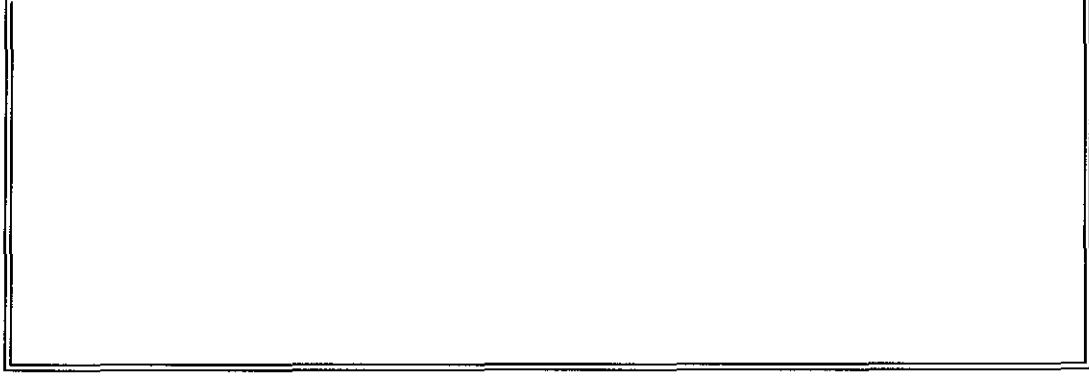
Vernie Williams is the subject of a story elsewhere on this website -- relating to the badge he wore as constable starting back around 1930 (see Badge). He also ran the popular Sweet Shop, where Cokes and Fro-joy Ice Cream were available, among other items. (The building later was The Odessa House bar, and most recently has served as an antique shop.)

The gas pump in the picture was on the Main Street side of the building, where a concrete slab exists now between sidewalk and exterior wall.

The photo above right shows Vernie standing on the right in 1944 alongside Jack Davis, who was home on leave from the Navy. The photo was provided to the village by Davis, who now resides in Horseheads and Florida.

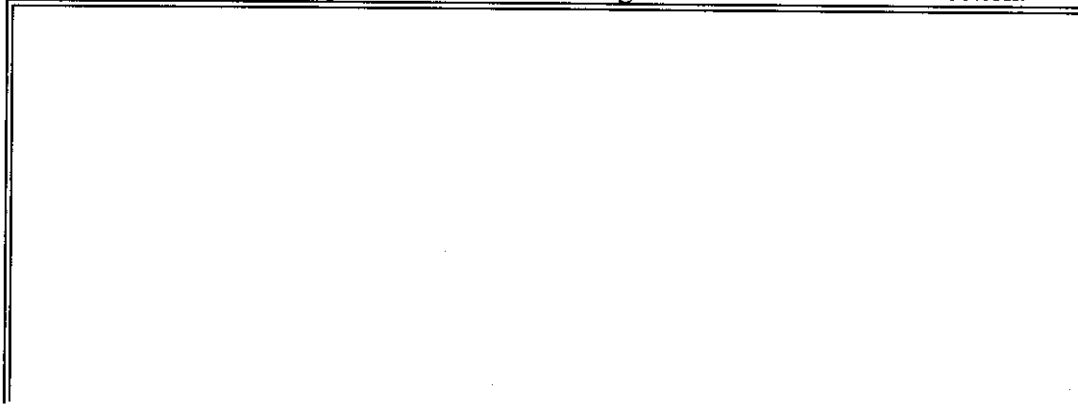
Davis is well-known for his career at the Odessa-Montour Central School, where he was a coach, physical education instructor and Athletic Director until his retirement almost 20 years ago. A gym in the facility is named in honor of him.

Scene from the past





ODESSA, Aug. 12 -- The photo above and the one below are from the same photo, taken on July 4, 1910 in downtown Odessa with a panoramic lens. The men kneeling in the foreground are listed on the back of the photo. From left, they are, from left: Warren Lyon, Duane Brown, Joel Couch, Charles Hotchkiss, B.K. Bronson, Will Maloney. Ralph Stanley, Howard Mickle, Ira Stanley, Dean Mitchell, Orval Newton, Horton Charles, Lewis Catlin, Proff. Goodnuff, Lee Owlett, Thomas Maloney, Doctor Jackson, John D. Peetingill, and Lewis Ervay. This is from the Village of Odessa historical collection.



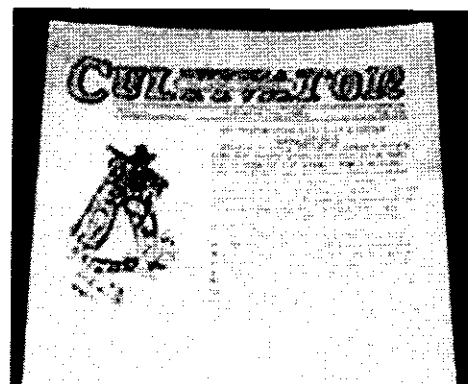


Old 'Cultivators' give peek at the past

By Charlie Haeffner

One of the side benefits of planning a centennial celebration -- such as Odessa is doing -- is the discovery of interesting artifacts along the way.

For instance, Mayor Robert Carpenter unearthed several items recently that he passed along to the committee planning the July 4-6 celebration -- a group led by former Mayor Betsy Austin.



Carpenter came up with a 1930s era phone directory for Odessa -- still in nice shape -- along with several photos, including a group shot with dozens of people in it taken at Seneca Lake when he was a child. He can't find himself in the photo, but his mother is there, and a sibling or two.

"And that," he said, pointing to a gentleman on the left, "is Vernie Williams."

Williams ran a sweet shop in the Odessa House. His home was just down the block -- a structure that has housed the writer of this article and his family for more than 20 years.

But perhaps most fun was a collection of mimeographed sheets that Carpenter found -- issues of *Cultivator*, a newspaper of sorts produced in 1935 and 1936. The paper was subtitled "The Odessa Community." Each issue ran eight to 10 pages, with each page roughly 7 by 8 inches.

The editor or editors are not listed anywhere, but in one front-page article -- urging correspondents to "get your notices, anecdotes, jokes or whatever you care to have printed, in to the staff ON TIME!" -- four names are listed as people to "hand article to": D.S. Peterson, Ray Stevens, Charles Harrington and Wayne Willis.

Peterson, of course, is memorialized through the local Dutton S. Peterson Library. He was a local Methodist minister, then a state assemblyman, and finally a state senator. Harrington was a longtime mayor of the community.

A large part of the fun in looking through such publications is the ads. In *Cultivator*, many were handprinted and hand-drawn before being mimeographed, giving the whole enterprise a more personal feel.

The Methodist Churches of Odessa, Catharine, and Alpine -- with Peterson as the minister -- take up the better part of a page in each issue. Meeting times, speakers at church-related functions, news of parishioners and the like dominate that space.

Not to be outdone, the Baptist Churches of Odessa and Cayuta take up as much room or more, with roughly the same kind of subject matter.

St. John's Episcopal Church settled for a smaller ad -- about a quarter of a page.

Regular business ads can be found for Pure Honey at Wilcox's, Shell Service at Fowler's Garage, The Horton Funeral Chapel, Cotton & Hanlon (for such things as electric washers and refrigerators), the J.T. Prince Jr. Cash Store, The Farmer's Store, Washburn's Hardware Store (in what is now the D&B Hobby Shop), Williams' Confectionary (also simply known as Vernie's), Odessa Coal Yards, Tawasi Beauty Shop, The Market Basket (in the eastern end of the old Post Office Building), Odessa National Bank, and Odessa Mills ("Quality Feed at a Reasonable Price").

There are regular sports reports --soccer, softball, baseball -- and small meeting notices, personal-event items, jokes and quotes.

Here's one joke, from July 18, 1936: "Little Audrey and her father were on top of the Empire State Building. Her father lost his balance and fell off. But Little Audrey laughed and laughed because she knew that he had on his light fall suit."

And this article in the Oct. 10, 1936 issue could almost have been pulled from today's government:

"The Village Board under the direction of Mayor Carpenter has been studying the various village ordinances with the object of revising many of the older ones to make them fit today's circumstances. They are also preparing new ordinances to meet conditions which need correction."

The Mayor Carpenter referred to was A.F. Carpenter, father of our current mayor, Robert Carpenter.

This "For Sale" item in the same issue is an eye-catcher: "3-drawer, square-top, oak desk and chair -- in good condition. \$10. Mrs. Milo Hitchcock."

As is this personal note: "Will the person who borrowed my extension ladder please return it for a short time, as I find that I have a little job or two for which I find need for said ladder. Thanks. Bert Ganoung."

And for those into the names of the past, there's this notice of the local Class of 1937's selection of officers for the senior year: Eleanor Hausaman as president, Anna McGuire as vice president, and Patricia Conrad as secretary-treasurer.

The year before, on Oct. 19, 1935, this article appears under "Believe It Or Not": "Last Sunday, Harvey Couch found it necessary to break the ice for his roosters to drink. After attending to this, he went to the garden and picked a nice lot of berries." That appears right above an ad for "Insurance. Harvey Couch. Odessa."

In the same issue, Dutton S. Peterson's name pops up again: "Pomona Grange at Searsburg Saturday, Oct. 19th. Dutton S. Peterson speaks. Mr. Peterson addressed Tompkins Co. WCTU last week, speaks at E.L. Group meeting Monday evening, at Elmira Lake St. Presbyterian Church Thursday evening -- Men's Banquet."

And there is this verse:

"A Hallowe'en party
Thursday at eight --
In the Baptist Church
Now, don't be late --
Wear goopy clothes
As a quaint disguise,
For the best costume
We offer a prize.
There'll be eats and stunts
And lots of fun,
We're expecting you all
So EVERYONE come."

In the April 18, 1936 issue, the school honor roll is printed. One familiar name in Grade 6: a Robert Carpenter had a 90 average. Another pupil, Hubert MacDowell, was close behind with an 87.